

SECRET

8 December 1982

ME ORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
VIA : Deputy Director for Intelligence
FROM : 25X1
Director of European Analysis
SUBJECT : General Rogers' cable on US-NATO: Controversy
Over Military Strategy article

1. The article in question documents signs of uneasiness in Western Europe over recent months regarding widely publicized proposals to enhance NATO's conventional defenses. The article attributes this uneasiness to misinformed press speculation which, by linking recent statements of General Rogers to earlier reported changes in US Army doctrine, implies a US advocacy of a change in NATO strategy. The article also identifies several areas of sensitivity among the Allies with regard to questions of strategy and force modernization. The Allies, in addition to reiterating longstanding concern about the high costs of a conventional buildup, have been stressing in particular that a "conventional emphasis" in NATO at the present time could make it difficult to maintain public and parliamentary support for INF modernization.

2. We strongly disagree with the allegation that the analysis is slanted and uninformed. The author, an experienced military analyst, has drawn on a wide variety of classified material, including Department of Defense and Department of State reporting, as well as press commentary throughout Western Europe and in the US. In our view, the statements in the article are factually based and fully sourced; the developments it covers are accurately described.

3. General Rogers has not identified any specific substantive disagreement with the article, but he may believe that it overplays West European sensitivities to future public discussions of NATO strategy. It should be noted that General Rogers has been made increasingly aware in recent months of European officials' concern about the fallout from his public advocacy of an improved conventional defense posture. At one recent meeting, for example, NATO permanent representatives (ambassadors) told him politely but firmly that his public statements were not helpful.

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